

ADVANTAGES AND DRAWBACKS OF ONLINE EDUCATION ON THE STUDENTS DURING COVID-19 LOCKDOWN

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Abstract

One of the major consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic and the resultant government induced lockdown has been institutionalised education. Educational institutions have been prevented to open to control the spread of the virus and this has lead us to online classrooms, a new educational culture in India also for the tier I institutions. It is applaudable how smoothly almost all educational institutions have switched to virtual classrooms, it was only possible because of the applications like Zoom, Google Hangouts and Microsoft Teams. But there are still some obstacles in online learning.

The faculty and institutions are showing extra efforts to involve students in online classes by moving group discussions online, taking feedback from guardians and keeping an eye on students all the time. Though there are some institutions who are concerned with the convenience of the students, are using WhatsApp to stay connected with them. Also, there are some institutions who are trying to keep the students engagement high by organizing guest lectures from famous personalities and known people from the respective fields. But even after these efforts, they are not successful enough to perform well.

Keywords: Online Learning, Educational Institutions, Students, Pandemic, Covid-19, Lockdown

INTRODUCTION :

During this lockdown period, students have enough time for everything they want to learn or wanted to learn but never had time before. So, this lockdown itself would be a testing phase for them to see who are willing to work towards their academic and personal goals with all the dedication required. The students need to be patient enough with online learning in these tough situations and they can choose to educate themselves by the best faculties at the minimal cost involved in the programs. On the downside, there are some drawbacks of the e-learning culture.

OBJECTIVES

1. To know the advantages of online education.
2. To know the drawbacks of online education on the students.
3. To understand the effects of covid- 19 pandemic lockdown
4. To observe the changes in the education system
5. To know the effects on the mental and physical health of students .

LITERATURE REVIEW

Educational institutions are getting their way to educate students through video conferencing applications such as Zoom, Google Hangouts and Microsoft Teams. Some of the faculty members see this medium really useful to provide the students with interactive learning even through online classrooms while others are still facing troubles.

As today's generation is already adapted with electronic consumables it is not much of a challenge to make them use these devices. Even though making them use these devices is not a problem, but the guardians and faculty members need to prevent the students from getting addicted to the technology.

ADVANTAGES OF ONLINE EDUCATION

There are multiple causes why e-learning have gained a lot of attention as span learning in higher education. The e-learning platform provides unmatched opportunities for students who had short access to education, and a new pattern for teachers/professors where many programs of the topmost grade can be evolved. Here are some advantages of e-learning

Anytime, Any Place...

The e-learning is reachable anytime, anywhere. The e-learning platform also improves the time effectiveness. There are no time limitations to learn and evolve, you can do it anytime of the day, month or year. Students can obtain their course material twenty four seven. They too have undisturbed allowance to lecture videos, programme material, and group discussion. This is helpful to the students who need to access the content multiple times to prepare for examinations or require more time to learn.

Student Centered

In an e-learning class, the students are required to respond to the program material (lecture videos), provide feedback to tutees as well. Students need to actively participate in the discussions by responding to other students and conveying their thoughts. Each and every student need to get engaged. By this process, they learn more actively and efficiently.

Level Playing Field

The e-learning platform provides students the ability to be anonymous to a certain extent. Students cannot be differentiated by the factors like life-span, clothing, features, ailments, ethnicity and sex. Centre of attractions should be only the content of the conversation and the tutee's potential to answer and pitch in attentively, & rationally to the facts and figures available.

WEAKNESS OF E-LEARNING

- Technology

Equity and Accessibility to Technological Advancement

The e-learning method could only proceed with success when it's students can reach the platform with ease. Absence of that, be it economical or logistics reasons, will lead to students being not able to enrol for the programme. This is the main problem in rural and backward areas. Moreover, if the students are not able to pay for the technology devices required, the institutions will lose them as students. When it comes to internet availability, it is not available everywhere in the world. In some areas, the internet cost is based upon the usage required, while in other areas they have to monthly. This is the drawback of the e-learning platform that requires internet to be available all the time to stay connected.

Computer Literacy

The students and faculty members need to have basic level of computer understanding, so that they can function effectively on the e-learning platform. For instance, they need to have the basic understanding to operate world wide web, handle search engines, and exchange and make emails if required. If they do not have these basic understandings, both the students and faculty members won't be able to perform any function or learn anything in the platform. And additionally, they will pull everyone down in the platform.

Hindrance of Technological Advancement

Fool proof as well as dependable technological advancement was needed for well-built e-learning platform. Nonetheless, surprisingly the most advanced technology is not completely dependable. Once everything is going perfectly, technological advancement is calculated to be nature of lying low in addition to be utilized as an apparatus in the e-learning method. Although, malfunction can happen at any time with the system, for instance, the server which hosts the program could crash and remove each and every student from the platform; a student may reach the platform through a networked computer which could crash; every personal computer can have multiple obstacles that can restrict tutee's allowance; ultimately, this Internet connectivity can break down; or this coaching-institution organizing the connectivity can prove to be embrangle with other tutees and it can slower down, or crash completely unitedly. In this state of affair, the technological advancement is neither completely dependable nor flawless. Complete platform could stop working.

- The Students

The e-learning platform of education can be a very reliable substitute method of education for the responsible

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and self-disciplined student, it is an unsuitable education platform for more reliant students. Online asynchronous learning programme provide students control over their learning experience, and permits for versatility of study schedules for non-traditional learners; but, this puts a considerable responsibility on the learner. Student must be self-motivated, well-organized and should have time management skills to successfully participate in the e-learning programme. Therefore, that being the case, the e-learning programme proves to be inappropriate to the learning youth, in addition to some tutees which tend to be reliant learners and face problems accepting leadership and authority essential for that e-learning platform.

- **The Coordinator**

Insufficiency of Required E-Learning Features

Well-performing provided commands abstain all the time interpret to well-performing provided commands. If coordinators are not accurately instructed in modus operandi, the e-learning programme's victory will be tempered. A demonstrator should be capable of communicating skilfully in writing down and in the speech/dialect in which the programme is suggested. An e-learning programme would be incapacitated if its coordinators are non-satisfactorily demanded to perform in the Virtual platform.

An e-learning demonstrator should be capable of compensating for insufficiency of physical presence by generating the reassuring environment in the Virtual class platform when every learner feels comfortable participating and for the most part when learners know that their demonstrator is come-at-able. Malfunction to do this can estrange the class both from each other, also from the demonstrator. Nonetheless, still if a virtual demonstrator is adequate enough to generate an agreeable virtual environment at where the class could perform, still the insufficiency of physical presence at an coaching centre could be a clampdown for an e-learning programme. For the demonstrator as well as the tutees, these things as having excluded of congregations and other events which demand on-site interconnection can hand over a circumscribing element in an e-learning programme.

CONCLUSION

This is very important time for technology and education both. The e-learning platforms that are available provides technology-built educational environments that enlarges schooling opportunities and can come up with exceptional learning through a variety of plans and procedures. There are some requirements of adult learners who require or demand to carry on with their learning, the e-learning programs provide an appropriate suspension to squabbles with jobs, ménage and learning schedules. Coaching-institutions of higher learning has discovered that the e-learning programmes are necessary in offering reach to education for the students/learners they want to work for. For an e-learning programme to be effective, the modules, the coordinator, the technological advancement and the learners must strictly be thoroughly contemplated, also in addition to stabilized in requirement to gain complete advantage of the toughness of the planning and in this mean time, steer clear of hazards which could occur from its weak points.

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